

## STATE OF CALIFORNIA SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY - RECOMMENDATION

### Sierra Nevada Conservancy Grant Program Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Act of 2006 (Proposition 84)

**Subregion:** NORTH-CENTRAL **County:** PLUMAS

**Applicant:** PLUMAS COUNTY FIRE SAFE COUNCIL

**Project Title:** GRIZZLY CREEK HAZARDOUS FUELS REDUCTION

**Application Number:** SNC 070345

#### PROJECT SCOPE

This project will treat 10 acres of hazardous fuels in an at-risk community in Plumas County, using a combination of thinning and mastication. This is the last unit of a larger 97-acre fuels reduction program that has been underway. The initial project exceeded cost projections due to increased fuel and hauling costs, along with declining forest market values, which occurred after the initial funding was received. The treatment will mitigate effects of future wildland fire by reducing fuel loading that contributes to fire intensity and risk near communities at risk.

Tasks necessary to complete the project include:

- Maintain RFP with existing contract
- Obtain Landowner Agreement
- Complete surface and ladder fuel treatment
- Photo monitoring, project monitoring
- Complete project reports.

#### RECOMMENDATION

SNC Staff recommendation is to fund at requested level of \$12,300. This relatively small infusion of funding would allow the County to complete work already started to reduce risk within the wildland-urban interface area from the current rating of "severe stand replacing behavior" to "fire resilient stands."

#### LETTERS OF SUPPORT

None provided.

#### PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Adjust RFP to Complete Project	July 2008
Obtain Landowner Agreements	August – November 2008
Progress Report	December 2008
Complete Treatments	June 2009
Progress Report	June 2009

Establish photo monitoring and project monitoring	July 2009
<b>FINAL REPORT</b>	<b>September 2009</b>

### PROJECT COSTS

<b>PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES</b>	<b>TOTAL SNC FUNDING</b>
Complete contracts for treatment on 10 acres	\$12,300
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,300</b>

## **Project Summary**

Provide a summary (one-page maximum) that describes key elements of the project and states the total project cost.

Please type here:

### **Grizzly Creek Road Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project**

Wildfire is a frequent and often catastrophic event in Plumas County. From 1995 to 2005, The Plumas National Forest, which comprises the majority of Plumas County, experienced 2,347 fires and 120,209 acres were burned. There have been over 100 fires and more than 87,000 acres burned in 2007, alone. These large fires frequently demonstrate severe catastrophic stand replacing and soil altering behavior, destroying watersheds and threatening communities

Critical to managing wildfire's intensity and severity is managing the fuel profile. This Plumas County Fire Safe Council (PCFSC) proposed fuels reduction project on private lands will provide funds to insure treatment of 97 acres of hazardous fuels in a Plumas County community at risk. This request is for \$12,300.

This project will finish treatment on 10 acres of hazardous fuels as part of a 97 acre project in a Plumas County community at risk. Fire behavior will be reduced from the current conditions of severe stand replacing behavior to fire resilient stands with flame lengths of less than 4 feet. Property owners requested PC FSC assistance in mitigating wildfire impacts. This project exceeded our cost projections, due to increased fuel and hauling costs along with declining forest market values.

This project compliments Hazardous Fuel Reduction (HFR) efforts on public lands being treated under the Herger Feinstein Quincy Library Forest Recovery Act, private industrial lands, and other non-commercial private lands in the County. Since 1998, 50,000 acres of public lands have been treated. PC FSC has obtained funds to treat over 840 acres of public and private lands in 13 communities at risk since 2002.

Accomplishments to date on this project include: 1) retention of a Registered Professional Forester (RPF) who completed the required CEQA & NEPA, and supervise the project, 2) landowner agreements which specify that any revenues from merchantable timber products (sawlogs or biomass chips) removed from the properties will be used for the project and that landowners commit to maintaining their properties in a fire resilient condition following the initial treatment 3) employment of fuel reduction treatment methods treating surface, ladder & canopy fuels to create a fire resilient condition, with projected flame length less than 4 feet; and 4) project monitoring, including photo points and projections of fire behavior in pre and post stand conditions.

We project a need for \$12,300 to complete the project. We have \$2,700 in available cash matching funds to supplement this SNC request..